

## **Dose reconstruction records team captures Exceptional Service Award**



Electronic newsletter from Communications  
for employees of the INEEL

The U.S. Department of Energy has recognized the INEEL for outstanding performance in indexing radiation dose reconstruction records for the thousands of workers at the INEEL. The records cover a 28-year time frame.

The award came at DOE's Annual Information Management Conference in Columbus, Ohio, June 7-9. Tom Rollow, director of the Office of Worker Advocacy, signed the Exceptional Service Award presented to the DOE-Idaho Operations Office and Bechtel BWXT Idaho.

It recognizes the successful completion of an 18-month campaign to index dose reconstruction records for thousands of workers at the INEEL, including recording and scanning over 1.6 million pages of data and then retrieving and reporting information for EEOICPA claimants. Lynn Rockhold, the EEOICPA project manager for BBWI, and Lorrie Robb, functional lead for Records Management Program Oversight, accepted the award for the INEEL.

"This was accomplished through the efforts of many people," Rockhold said. "It took a very special team, with incredible focus, commitment and impeccable synergy to make the 'seemingly impossible' goal achievable."

Peter Hugus, director of Document Resource Management, commented, "From inception, our goal for the EEOICPA program (at the INEEL) has been to effectively partner with our stakeholders, identify their needs and implement an efficient work process that would provide recognized value to both the Department of Energy and EEOICPA claimants. I take great pride in recognizing the significant contributions that Lynn and our dedicated staff have made to support this national effort. This team of experts exemplifies Bechtel's commitment to deliver."

DOE-ID Manager Elizabeth Sellers said, "With the continued focus by Congress, it is great that Idaho has responded to this huge backlog in a rapid fashion. Plus, it sends a positive message to the claimants that this is important. Thank you for the focus and dedication."



DOE photo

**Lynn Rockhold and Lorrie Robb receive the award from Tom Rollow, DOE headquarters director of EEOICPA/Office of Worker Advocacy and Roger Anders, DOE-HQ's Records Research manager.**

The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) was passed by Congress to provide compensation to former or current employees who have serious illness due to hazardous exposures while employed at a DOE site. Congress approved a modified Defense Authorization Act in late November 2003 that required the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to report the progress of dose reconstruction for each DOE site involved in the EEOICPA.

As a result of this new act, each DOE site was required to accelerate the processing of claims. (Prior to this massive indexing effort, the INEEL was able to process claims only for those employed after 1976 – a small portion of the total claims.) The INEEL had a significant backlog of claimants who worked prior to 1976. DOE-Idaho Operations Office set a goal for the INEEL to complete the 268-claim balance in less than five weeks, before Christmas curtailment.

Technical employees from BBWI's Radiological Health Support organization and administrative staff from DOE-ID and the BBWI EEOICPA Office worked feverishly. Additional temporary technical and administrative subcontractors were hired to assist. Thirty BBWI, DOE-ID, Intrepid Technologies & Resources and RED, Inc. communications employees worked significant overtime in the weeks before Christmas curtailment to meet the DOE-ID goal to eliminate the backlog of claims and meet the new accelerated NIOSH effort to report to Congress. The people involved are:

**DOE-ID -- Karin Brown, Jennifer Cate, Midge Vivian and Priscilla Zamora**

**BBWI** -- Brian Andersen, Bonnie Anderson, Patty Bergeson, Sandy Brown, Vicki Calder, Marie Hill-Ellis, Mishelle Hugues, Lynn Rockhold and Paul Ruhter

**Intrepid Technology & Resources, Inc.** -- Frank Jakubowski, Boyd Leavitt, Don Marshall and Leon Horman

**RED, Inc.** -- Karen Abbott, Tanya Bird, Bonita Bradley, Terri Christensen, Kristy Day, Katie Hansen, Terry Hobbs, Julene Messick, Shannon Owens, Jodi Scott, K.C. Sellars, Patricia Simons and Beth Winschell